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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Roberto VILLA et al.

Confirmation No. 4029

Serial No. 10/009,532

GROUP 1615

Filed December 12, 2001

Examiner L. Di Nola Baron

CONTROLLED RELEASE AND TASTE MASKING ORAL PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOSITIONS

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents · PO Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the Official Action of February 12, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claim 1 as follows:

 $\oint 1$. (amended) A controlled release and taste-masking oral pharmaceutical composition containing an active ingredient, comprising:

- a) a matrix consisting of C_6-C_{20} alcohols or C_8-C_{20} fatty acids or esters of fatty acids with glycerol or sorbitol or other polyalcohols with carbon atom chain not higher than six;
 - b) an amphiphilic matrix; and
- c) an outer hydrophilic matrix in which a lipophilic matrix and said amphiphilic matrix are dispersed.—